[20th October 1947

"(c) There is no proposal to alter the practice referred to in the answer to clauses (a) and (b). But the whole question of land revenue reform is now engaging the attention of the Government."

Sri M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Will the Government consider the question of extending the provisions to Malabar landholders also?"

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—"The position in Malabar is that lands belong to private parties. It is tax that collected and not the rent."

Sri M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Will the Government consider the question of extending the provisions to the Malabar landholders hereafter at least?"

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—"The Government will examine the question but as I have already said the whole question of land revenue reform is under consideration."

Sri M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Since time will be taken for the consideration of the whole question will the Government consider the question of extending the provisions to Malabar for the interim period?"

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I shall get the question examined, Sir."

[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THREATENED STRIKE OF NON-GAZETTED SERVICE ASSOCIATIONS.

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"I have to inform the House that notice of the following motion for adjournment of the House has been received from Mr. Abdul Latif Farooki Sahib :—

'I intend moving for the adjournment of the House to consider the grave situation created by the decision of the Non-gazetted Officers' Association and the various Service Associations in the Presidency to go on strike throughout the whole Presidency and the threat by the Government to withdraw the recognition of the Madras Secretariat Association and to take disciplinary action against the members thereof.'

11-30 a.m. "I should like to know the position of the Government."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"This is a matter which concerns the services. It is not right that the service should get into a frame of indiscipline and coerce the Government to adopt a certain procedure. I might also inform the House that it is only very recently that the pay of the services had been increased very substantially and if further additions to that increment ought to be made, it is a matter for consideration by several departments. It is not as if the Government could act on a threat of a strike and give increased pay, particularly to the services which

20th October 1947] [Dr. T. S. S. Rajan]

are supposed to be under their control and subject to certain amount of discipline. The threat of strike on the part of the services is something very different from the strike of the workers in mills or industrial establishments. Here the Government have got a formula and they have a procedure and the conduct of the services are controlled by that procedure and if suddenly they take it into their heads to strike and run off at a tangent, it then becomes the painful necessity of Government to take note of these facts and to draw their attention to the fact that they are getting into indiscipline and their service regulations have got to be enforced. Therefore they have been told that if they persist in the present attitude and carry on the threat of strike, there will be time enough for the Government to intervene and take disciplinary action and that is what they have done and they have done nothing against the service regulations. The Government have reminded the services of the duty they owe to the Government with regard to what they have got to discharge in their every day duty and even in the matter of calling for a strike, they have to conform to rules guiding their conduct and they cannot take it into their heads to declare a strike as they please; it is the height of indiscipline which no Government can tolerate particularly amongst their services. That is why their attention has been drawn to the real positions; any discussion at this stage will not be advisable. It will neither help the Government nor those who are talking about organizing a strike. It will not help them, nor the Government nor even this House because a discussion of this nature at this moment is most inadvisable. Under these circumstances, I request the mover of the resolution not to press for it."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, in view of what the Leader of the House has stated, I do not wish to press the adjournment motion; but I would make a request to the Government to consider the conditions of these poor people and do the needful for them. I would also request the Government to be lenient to non-gazetted officers so far as disciplinary action is concerned."

III.—MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to anounce to the House the following messages dated Fort St. George, the 9th October 1947, received by me from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly :—

' (1) In accordance with rule 111 (2) of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the motion passed to-day by the Madras Legislative Assembly, desiring to obtain the concurrence of the Council in setting up a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses to consider the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic (Amendment) Bill, 1947 :—

" That, under rule 111 of the Madras Assembly Rules, the concurrence of the Legislative Council be obtained in setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses, consisting of fourteen members to consider the Bill."